



PRESS RELEASE

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Sonoma Valley Groundwater Grant Proposal Receives Top Statewide Ranking

\$250,000 to assist in groundwater management

(Santa Rosa, CA) — A grant proposal submitted by the Sonoma County Water Agency on behalf of the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Plan Basin Advisory Panel received the second highest ranking score among 122 applications statewide for the Department of Water Resources FY 2007/2008 Local Groundwater Assistance Grant Program. The high ranking means the proposal will receive consideration for full funding, which could mean as much as \$250,000 for implementation of the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Plan. Administered by the California Department of Water Resources, 122 grant applications from across the state were submitted totaling 27.6 million; only \$6.4 million is available.

“I’m so proud of the hard work and dedication of our local community; in particular those citizens who serve on the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Basin Advisory Panel, to better manage our groundwater resources. The completion of the Groundwater Management Plan and this grant funding are critical to the long-term viability of the Valley” said Director Valerie Brown. “We must continue to focus on the sustainability of our groundwater basin for all Sonoma Valley residents and this funding will help us achieve this goal.”

The grant funding would assist the Agency in improving the data in the groundwater basin by installing two new wells, and developing recharge mapping that evaluates and identifies the primary recharge areas in the basin. Six to ten nested groundwater monitoring wells would be logged geophysically and constructed at two borehole locations where there is very little hydrogeologic information available. The wells would be located in areas where saline water intrusion is a concern, and in or very near areas of groundwater depression due to localized pumping.

The Local Government Assistance Technical Advisory Panel will make recommendations for funding based on the scores. The meeting will be held June 2 in the Resources Building First floor Auditorium in Sacramento, CA.

To learn more about the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Plan, visit <http://www.scwa.ca.gov/projects/svgroundwater/>. The FY 2007/2008 Local Groundwater Assistance Grant Scores and Evaluations have been posted at <http://www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov/grants/assistance.cfm>.

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Sonoma County Water Agency provides water supply, flood protection and sanitation services for portions of Sonoma and Marin counties. Visit us on the Web at www.sonomacountywater.org.